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P. 06

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Serial no.: 10/541,011

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In the specification:

At page 1, lines 10 to 24: please change the full paragraph to read as follows to avoid a spacing issue regarding $10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$:

Hydroxyl radical (HO^*) is one of the strongest oxidants that is available in the natural world and in the chemist's tool box. This species is extremely reactive and degrades promptly any available organic molecule. Hydroxyl radicals, likewise other reactive oxygen species, are also a very potent biocide which vigorously attack microorganisms and tissues, damaging cell membrane lipids, proteins, carbohydrates and DNA. The hydroxyl radical reactions are extremely fast, having rate constants of from 10^7 to $10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$. Consequently the hydroxyl radical only diffuses the equivalent of 5-10 of its molecular diameter before it reacts [E. Cadenas: Ann. Rev. Biochem. 58 (1989) 79]. Interestingly, hydroxyl radicals and other reactive oxygen species were recently recognized as a cellular signaling device [E.g., Van Breusegem et al.: Plant Sci. 161 (2001) 405-414], as well as a biological weapon used by the immune system for killing bacteria [Wentworth P et al.: Science 298 (2002) 2195-9].

At page 7, line 20 to 25: please change the full paragraph to read as follows to avoid a spacing issue regarding "acid and":

The formation of hydroxyl radicals was quantified by reacting the radicals with salicylic acid [H. Kaur et al.: Methods in Enzymology 233 (1994) 67-82] to form 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid and 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid, and by detecting these products by HPLC with a UV detector (See Fig. 2), using column RP-18, 80% phosphate buffer pH 6.5 + 20% methanol, flow rate 1ml/min, and λ_{max} 300 nm.